# Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Block\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ English 7H

Writing dialogue and using sensory language examples

**There are several important things to remember when writing dialogue.**

* Do not use dialogue simply to convey information. Dialogue should set the scene, advance action, give insight into characterization, remind the reader, and foreshadow. Dialogue should always be doing many things at once.
* Keep the character's voice in mind but keep it readable. Dialogue doesn't have to be grammatically correct; it should read like actual speech. However, there must be a balance between realistic speech and readability.
* Don't use too much slang or misspelling in order to create a character's voice. Also remember to use speech as a characterization tool. Word choice tells a reader a lot about a person: appearance, ethnicity, sexuality, background, and morality.

Some Examples:

“The 40...30...He's at the 20! ...10...TOUCHDOWN!”

“Oh C'mon, that was supposed to be an interception,” Shane exclaimed.

“Sorry, Man.”

“I want a rematch!” he shot back.

“You’re on.”

**The Little Boy and the Old Man**

The little boy said, "Sometimes I drop my spoon."
The old man whispered, "I do that too."
The little boy whispered back, "I wet my pants."
"I do that too," laughed the little old man.
The little boy said, "I often cry."
The old man nodded, "So do I."
"But worst of all," said the boy, "it seems
Grown-ups don't pay attention to me."
And he felt the warmth of a wrinkled old hand.
"I know what you mean," said the little old man.
([Shel Silverstein](http://www.shelsilverstein.com/), "The Little Boy and the Old Man." A Light in the Attic. HarperCollins, 1981)

**Sensory language**

Sensory language references and stimulates the senses, thus:

*The cool morning sun cast long fingers of shadow and light across the green field as our visitors tramped across rough and the dewy grass.*

**Sensory Words**

**Keep the following lists of words to help you improve your writing. Using sensory**

**words can help you provide more details and examples in your writing.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SOUND WORDS**Hanging croaking laughing ringing tinklingBarking crunching moaning rumbling thuddingBawling crying mooing rustling thumpingBlaring dripping mumbling scratching tickingBooming exploding muttering screaming twitteringBuzzing fizzing noisy screeching warblingChattering gagging peeping singing wheezingChiming gasping piercing slamming whimperingChirping giggling pinging shouting whiningClanging grating plopping silent whisperingClicking grunting quacking snoring whoopingClinking gurgling quiet splashingCooing hissing rapping squawkingCoughing honking rasping stutteringCrackling jangling riming tearing | **TOUCH WORDS**Abrasive feathery knobbed sandy spongyBiting fine lacy scalding steamyBoiling fluffy leathery scorching steelyBubby foamy light scratchy stickyBulky freezing lukewarm scummy stifledBumpy furry matted shaggy stingingBurning fuzzy metallic sharp stonyBushy glassy moist silky stubbyClammy gluey mushy slimy tangledCoarse grainy numbing slippery tenderCool greasy oily sloppy tepidCottony gritty piercing smooth thickCrisp gushy plastic smothering ticklingCushioned hairy pocked soapy toughDamp heavy pointed soft velvetyDowny hot pulpy sopping warmDrenched humid rocky soupy waxy |
| **TASTE AND SMELL WORDS**Acid doughy minty rank sweatyAcidic earthy moist raw sweetAcrid floury moldy rich tangyAlkaline flowery musky rotten tastelessAromatic fresh musty salty toughBiting fruity oily scented vileBitter garlicky perfumed sharp vinegaryBland hearty pickled sourBurnt hot piney spicyButtery lemony plastic spoiledCold medicinal pungent stagnant | **SIGHT WORDS**Abrasive feathery knobbed sandy spongyBiting fine lacy scalding steamyBoiling fluffy leathery scorching steelyBubbly foamy light scratchy stickyBulky freezing lukewarm scummy stifledBumpy furry matted shaggy stingingBurning fuzzy metallic sharp stonyBushy glassy moist silky stubbyClammy gluey mushy slimy tangledCoarse grainy numbing slippery tenderCool greasy oily sloppy tepidCottony gritty piercing smooth thickCrisp gushy plastic smothering ticklingCushioned hairy pocked soapy toughDamp heavy pointed soft velvetyDowny hot pulpy sopping warmDrenched humid rocky soupy waxy |